

Workers' Compensation Advisory Board
January 21, 2010 Open Meeting Minutes
Illinois Workers Compensation Commission, Chicago
2:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting:

Acting Chairman Amy J. Masters
Mr. Aaron Anderson, Painters Dist. Council #30
Mr. Mark Flannery, Caterpillar, Inc.
Mr. Michael Holewinski, Ace Industries
Mr. David Menchetti, Cullen Haskins, Nicholson & Menchetti

Attending the meeting via conference call:

Mr. David Buckman, CORE Construction Group
Ms. Kim Maisch, National Federation of Independent Business
Mr. Michael Carrigan, Illinois AFL-CIO
Mr. David Vite, Illinois Retail Merchants Association
Mr. Frank Cavarretta, United Steel Workers
Mr. Gerald Roper, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

Also Present

Bertha E. Parker, Acting Secretary

Acting Chairman Masters called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting held on November 30, 2009, were approved.

The following documents were distributed to the board members: Notice of Workers' Compensation Advisory Board Meeting Agenda, minutes from the November 30, 2009 Workers' Compensation Advisory Board meeting, Report to the Governor and General Assembly on the Illinois Workers' Compensation Medical fee schedule, comments about the IWCC Open House, and list of convictions as result of Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit investigations.

Acting Chairman Masters provided a Commission update, first noting the Commission recently began sponsoring Open Houses on a monthly basis to provide interested members of the public with a tour of the Commission and opportunity to observe arbitration and commission hearings. She shared positive feedback received from Open House attendees.

Acting Chairman Masters provided an update on the FY11 proposed budget.

Next Acting Chairman Masters updated the board about the medical fee schedule, noting the recently published Medical Fee Schedule report as submitted to the Governor and General Assembly. She added that the Medical Fee Advisory Board was instrumental in developing the

report, and thanked Mark Flannery, Dave Menchetti, and Kim Presbrey for their contributions. The report helped to define the 2010 agenda for the board. One of the issues identified for review was excessive costs of implant charges as reported by employers.

Acting Chairman Masters also provided an update on the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit, which recently hired 3 additional investigators. The unit has also started to post a list of convictions online at <http://www.insurance.illinois.gov/wcfu/> as a result of the unit's investigations.

Acting Chairman Masters also informed the board that back-payments will be paid in full to the group of Rate Adjustment Fund claimants whose payments were issued late, based upon a recent ruling by the Commission. She noted that funds are available to make these payments. She also discussed final outreach efforts to be made by the Commission.

Next the board discussed rules revisions, which were agreed upon by the rules committee. Acting Chairman Masters reviewed all proposed revisions for Parts 7010, 7020, 7030, 7040, 7050, 7060, 7090, 7100, and 7110. Several comments were made by the Advisory Board, and Acting Chairman Masters agreed to incorporate those comments before submitting to the Commission for review. She noted the rules revisions would be submitted to the Commission for review and approval at the next Commission meeting scheduled January 28, 2010.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.